

TOP SECRET

PRIORITY

12 NOV 1963

T O P S E C R E T 090010Z

OUT52261

1963 NOV 9 00 56Z

HFS ☒ 25X1

CJS ☒

CFC ☒

PNS ☒

ACL ☒

SUBJECT: THRESHOLD OF USEFULNESS

1. FEELS THAT IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO PRESCRIBE A GIVEN POINT WHICH CAN BE CONSIDERED AS THE "THRESHOLD OF USEFULNESS". WHO CAN REALLY SAY WHEN SUCH A POINT HAS BEEN REACHED AND WHEN DOES ONE HAVE ALL OF THE INFORMATION REQUIRED TO FULFILL A GIVEN REQUIREMENT? TO ACHIEVE OUR COLLECTION GOALS THERE ARE TWO TYPES OF COLLECTION SYSTEMS - SURVEILLANCE AND TECHNICAL INTELLIGENCE. THE PURPOSE OF EACH COLLECTION MISSION MUST BE CONSIDERED: I.E., WAS IT CONDUCTED TO ACQUIRE TACTICAL INFORMATION, LONG-RANGE STRATEGIC INFORMATION OR TECHNICAL DATA APPLICABLE TO EITHER. THE GROUND RESOLUTION REQUIRED TO ACQUIRE THE DETAIL NEEDED IN EACH OF THESE CATEGORIES WILL VARY CONSIDERABLY. FOR EXAMPLE, THE FOLLOWING CHART SHOWS THE GROUND RESOLUTION BY MISSION AND SOME OF THE REPRESENTATIVE OBJECTS WHICH

Grace (Fil) 25X1

1

Declassification Review by NGA/DoD

25X1

TOP SECRET

GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

COULD BE DISCERNED:

SYS/MSN	SCALE	GRND RES	INFO GAINED
9009	1:350,000	50 FEET	IDENTIFICATION OF AIRFIELDS ONLY.
9013	1:350,000	40 FEET	IDENTIFICATION OF AIRFIELDS AND POSSIBLE DETECTION OF LARGE A/C.
9017	1:350,000	35 FEET	SAME AS ABOVE WITH BETTER POS- SIBILITY OF DETECTION OF LARGE BOMBERS.
9022	1:350,000	25 FEET	IDENTIFICATION OF BOMBERS AND DETECTION OF FIGHTERS.
9031	1:350,000	15-20 FEET	IDENTIFICATION OF BOMBERS BY TYPE.
9032	1:350,000	15-20 FEET	IDENTIFICATION OF FIGHTER A/C. GOOD AIRCRAFT COUNT UNDER OPTIMUM CONDITIONS.
9057	1:350,000	10-15 FEET	IDENTIFICATION OF BOMBERS AND FIGHTERS BY TYPE. VEHICLE COUNT UNDER OPTIMUM CONDITIONS.

2. IN SUMMARY, ALL PHOTOGRAPHY IS USEFUL IN ONE WAY OR ANOTHER. OBVIOUSLY FROM LARGER SCALES WE CAN OBTAIN MORE DETAILED INFORMATION.

T O P S E C R E T

-END OF MESSAGE-